

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*



*Everyone is Welcome!
Taste and See that the Lord is Good,
Let us rejoice together!*

Grace Lutheran Church

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS – (ELW p. 94)

Please stand in body or spirit to receive forgiveness.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

A: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

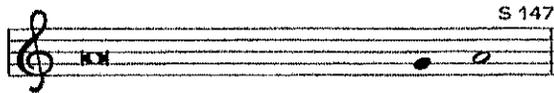
A: Amen. Assembly sits.

GREETING – (ELW p. 147)

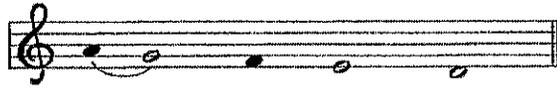
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: And also with you.

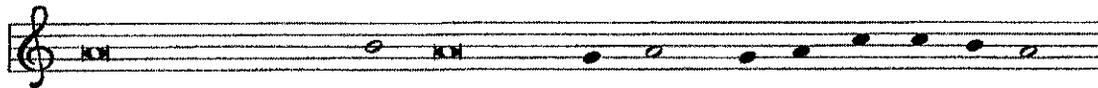
KYRIE – (ELW p. 147)



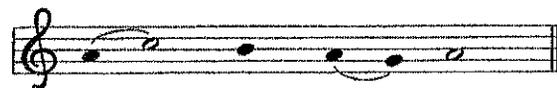
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



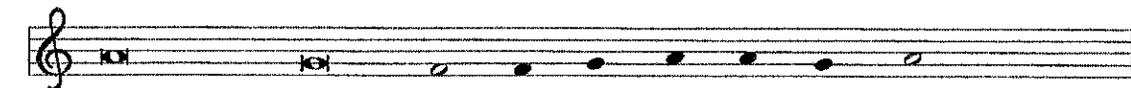
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



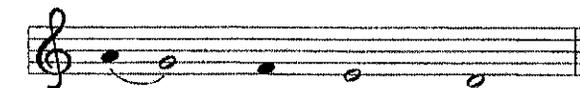
Lord, have mer - cy.



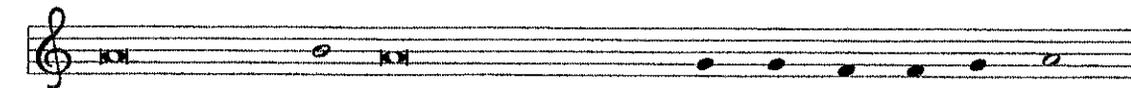
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



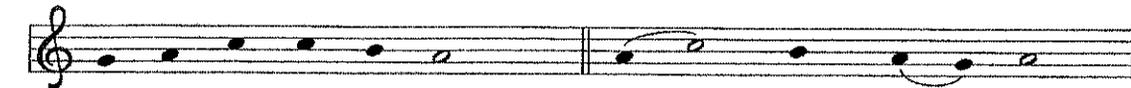
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



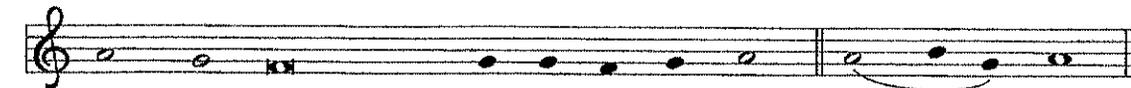
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE -- (ELW p. S149)

Refrain

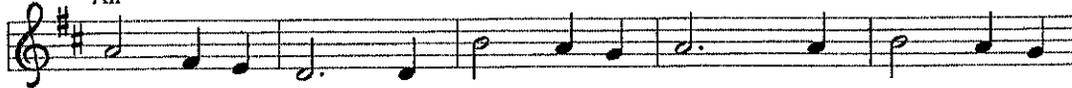
Assisting minister

S 149



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Please see handout.

FIRST READING –Please see handout.

Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM - Please see handout and read responsively

SECOND READING – Please see handout.

Response after the reading:

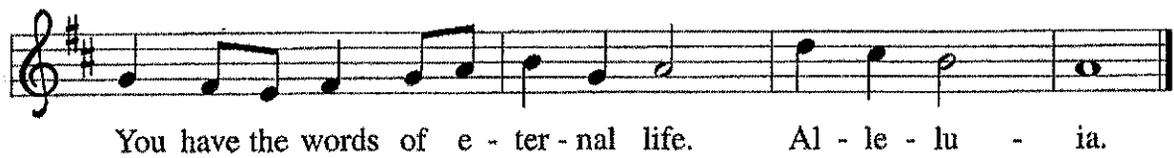
R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – (ELW p. S151a) *Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The holy gospel according to

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ. *The assembly sits.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

NICENE CREED – (ELW p. 104)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our
salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he
suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no
end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and
the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We
acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of
the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – (ELW p.152)

Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

PEACE – (ELW p. 152) *Please stand in body or spirit*

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" hymn - ELW #884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING – (ELW p. 152 & 153)

P: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: it is right to give our thanks and praise.

S 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER – (ELW p. 154)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD – (ELW p. 154)

S 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION FOLLOWED by READING – (ELW p. 113)

A: Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING – (ELW p. 155)

Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL – (ELW p. 155)

Response after the dismissal:

A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

*Please join us for
fellowship in the basement
following worship ☺*

SENDING SONG

Postlude

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering Song – ELW # 522 “As We Gather at Your Table”

Hymn of the Day – ELW # 650 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

Sending Song – ELW # 669 “Rise Up, O Saints of God!”

We pray always for . . .

*Louis Bentzinger, Pastor Steve Billington, Gerry Brezenski, Linda Daniels,
Julie Effken, Nancy Gerking, Elaine Hauberg, Char Helgren, Diane Roesener,
& Joan Wellensiek*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan & Evance, orphans we are sponsoring in Tanzania

Announcements

TODAY 2/1/26 *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*

Worship with Communion– 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

TUESDAY 2/3/26

Piecemakers Blanket Making – All Day

WEDNESDAY 2/4/26

7/8th Grade Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY 2/8/26 *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Osage Soup Dinner 11:00 – 1:00

Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary’s box in the south office.

You may email the church office grace68329@gmail.com

You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church),

402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)



Today's Readings

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

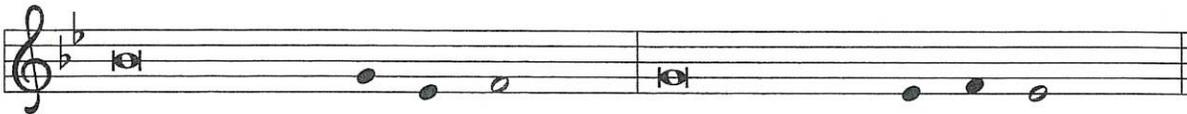
⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm

Psalm 15; tone 7



LORD, who may dwell
in your ¹ tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your ¹ holy hill?

²Those who lead a blameless life
and do ¹ what is right,
who speak the truth
¹ from their heart;

³they do not slander with the tongue,
they do no evil ¹ to their friends;
they do not cast discredit
up- ¹ on a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected,
but they honor those
who ¹ fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health
and do not take ¹ back their word.

⁵They do not give their money
in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes
a- ¹ gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things
shall never be ¹ overthrown.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the
discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of

God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”